MIGRATING BIRDS IN FUERTEVENTURA

Bee-eater 18
Bittern, Little 3
Blackcap 30
Bluethroat 26
Corncrake 10
Cuckoo, Common 15
Eagle, Booted 7
Egret, Little 5
Flycatcher, Pied 34
Greenfinch 37
Heron, Squacco 4
Hobby 8
Lark, Short-toed 21
Martin, House 23
Sand 23
Nightingale 25
Oriole, Golden 36
Owl, Scops 16
Pratincole, Collared 12
Quail 9
Redstart 27
Roller 19
Shearwater, Great 1
Manx 1
Sooty 2
Shrike, Woodchat 35
Stilt, Black-winged 11
Stork, White 6
Swallow, Barn 22
Red-rumped 22
Swift, Alpine 17
Common 17
Tern, Arctic 13

Common 13
Little 14
Whiskered 14
Wagtail, Yellow 24
Warbler, Grasshopper 31
Melodious 32
Olivaceous 32
Reed 31
Subalpine 30
Wood 33
Wheatear 28
, Black-eared 28
Whinchat 29
Wryneck 20

L	43-51	G
	30.35	M
W	105-122	G
	71.83	M

Day over sea. G, like C & L, attracted to ships, M not
M breeds in N Europe, ranges widely over oceans in winter; G breeds on islands in S Atlantic in our winter and summers at sea
G **smaller** than Cory's, M much smaller. Both have stiffer, more rapid wingbeats than Cory's, but M will glide almost exclusively in strong winds often veering from side to side, showing black & white alternately (C will glide in calm also)

GREAT SHEARWATER
Puffinus gravis
Pardella capirotada

MANX SHEARWATER
Puffinus puffinus
Pardella pichoneta

L 40-50
W 95-110

Breeds in S Hemisphere but winters in N. During Southern passage may be seen in flocks, often in association w storms, late summer onwards
Flight powerful and direct. In poor light can look all black; in good light more chocolate-brown w paler, almost silvery-looking, underwing pattern
Does not follow ships, like M.
Cory’s, Great and Little do

SOOTY SHEARWATER
Puffinus griseus
Pardella sombria

L 33-38
W 49-58

Winters in Africa, breeds S Europe & eastwards

Nest a platform of reeds, often raised above water level in reedbeds or bushes.

Smaller than Moorhen, secretive, often retreats by climbing & running
Flight quick, jerky wingbeats

Food fish, frogs & insects

Voice Flight-call abrupt, nasal ‘kwekwekwe’, or shorter length. Song, mostly at night, monotonous, continuous series of low muffled croaking ‘hogh’ every 2.5 secs

LITTLE BITTERN
Ixobrychus minitus
Avetorillo Comun

L 40-49
W 71-86

Breeds S Europe, winters in Africa. Breeds in small colonies at shallow, marshy lakes, ponds or rivers with reeds, bushes
Small buffy-brown heron but looks almost all white as takes off and in flight
Summer plumage elongated nape feathers, faint violet shimmer on ochre plumage, legs yellowish-pink (turning red during courtship), bill bluish & white tip; winter no ornate nape feathers and head & neck sides streaked, legs greenish, bill yellowish
Voice hoarse, croaking ‘kaahk’ sim to Mallard; colonies nasal ‘kak kak kak …’ & ‘ah ah ah …’

SQUACCO HERON
Ardeola Ralloides
Garcilla Cangrejera

L 55-65
W 88-106

Nests in trees & bushes by shallow, marshy lakes, rivers & coastal lagoons… breeds S to Mid Europe, winters Africa
Food fish, frogs, insects
Slim elegant; legs black w yellow toes (uniquely); bill dark, long, straight (lightening at face end during courtship…+ 2 long nape feathers then)
Flight wings nearly centrally placed, legs projecting showing yellow toes
Voice mostly silent away fr colonies; on rising sometimes Rook-like ‘aah’; greeting call loud ‘da-**wah**’; at colonies hoarse, hard calls & gargling ‘gulla-gulla-gulla…’

LITTLE EGRET BREEDS

Egretta garzetta

Garceta comun

L 95-110
W 180-218

Winters in tropical Africa – notable passage at Gib end Aug – breeds, often in small colonies, in Spain, N W Africa & eastwards in open farmland w access to swampy riversides, marshes in stick nest on house roofs, towers
Not shy, approachable
Very big, long neck & legs; red bill & legs. (Imm has duller red bill w darker tip)
Slow, dignified walk; flight w neck straight out, projecting legs
Food frogs, insects, snakes & small birds
Voice virtually silent but loud bill-clappering esp meeting partner at nest

WHITE STORK
Ciconia ciconia
Ciguena blanca

L 42-52
W 110-135
Resident or summer visitor Spain & N Africa, breeds forests w open ground or mountains; nests in tree or cliff. Food mammals, reptiles, birds caught on or near ground after spectacular stoop w wings folded.
Sim to Buzzard but 6 rather than 5 ‘fingers; flight more eagle-like, straighter faster course w longer glides. Tail square-cut, sides straight
Pale morph w strong contrast white & black underbody seen in Fuerteventura
Voice highly vocal in breeding season; main call shrill ‘kli kli kli’ & buzzard-like ‘hiyaah’ & series of ‘gű’

BOOTED EAGLE

BREEDS

Hieraatus pennatus

Aguila Calzada

L 29-35
W 70-84

Winters in Africa, breeds N Africa and Europe
Breeds in variety of habitats incl lakes, bogs, mountains.; nests in trees, in abandoned nests of other birds, eg crow
Food insects & birds (incl swallows & swifts) caught in air by supreme velocity in chase or stoop
Ad has red ‘trousers’ & streaked pale breast best visible when perched
Tail is ‘closed’ in most flight
Juv does not have red & breast is more buff
Voice main call nasal, grating ‘kyeh kyeh kyeh kyah’’; alarm at nest sharp ‘kak kak’ & ‘’kekeke…’

HOBBY
Falco subbuteo
Alcotan europeo

L 16-18

Winters in Africa, breeds Europe, possibly N W Africa
Nests on ground, often in crops – 8-13 eggs

Rarely seen but heard… reluctant to fly by day
Very small; m has black throat centre, f pale

Voice when flushed wader-like soft, rolling wree.
Song mainly at daybreak – rhythmic, tri-syllabic phrase repeated rapidly – sharp whistle, 1st and last syllables stressed '**büt** bűl-**üt**' *(wet my lips)*; close to a throaty, mechanical secondary note (like Sp Crake) is audible, plus muffled 'mau-wau' noises.

QUAIL
Coturnix coturnix
Codorniz comun

L 22-25

Winters E Africa, breeds N Europe.
Breeds in damp meadows by marsh, lakes etc but also on more lush meadowland w access to watery land & taller vegetation
Sim Water Rail but short, stubby bill
Flight ‘flappy’ showing red-brown wing patch & prominent dangling legs

Voice rather silent but display-call dusk to morning, v occasionally in day, is a persistently repeated hoarse & mechanical, sharp rasping ‘ehrp-ehrp’ (or ‘crex-crex’) once per sec for hours on end, with only brief rests

CORNCRAKE
Crex crex
Guion de codornices

L 39-44 (incl bill 6.5)
Resident NW Africa coast but also migrates, winter in Africa, breeds Spain w nest lined scrape on islet or near fresh, brackish or salt water, occasionally raised mound of vegetation in shallow water
Food mainly insects
Elegant; bill dark, needle-fine & straight; long reddish-pink legs; plumage black & white (f v dark-brown & white) m having more black on head
Flight head & legs extended; flicking wing action; all-black underwing & pointed wing
Juv dull brown, pale legs

Voice silent except when breeding but predators chased w loud grating ‘kreet kreet…’

BLACK-WINGED STILT
BREEDS
Himantopus himantopus
Ciguenuela

L 24-28

Winters Africa, breeds Spain & N W Africa in loose colonies in flat, dry terrain w low vegetation, wet meadows, reedbeds, or by saltpans with nest a scrape on bare ground

Food insects caught in flight, wh can be graceful, Black

Tern-like or erratic, swooping or dashing over wide area.
Ad in summer has clear, red at base of bill

Voice nasal, piercing calls. ‘kit’ or ‘kittik’ in flight; spring song excited ‘**kü**rre-kek kitt**ik**’

COLLARED PRATINCOLE
Glareola pratincola
Canastera comun

L	33-39 incl tail streamers 7-11.5	A
	34-37 incl tail streamers 5-8	C
W	66-77	A
	70.80	C

Both winter S Africa, A also Antarctica and C W Africa.; both breed N Europe
A red bill, C red w black. C has longer neck and less defined wingbar, smaller streamers
Flight – A often more elastic & gracefully bouncing than C;
C hovers & dives directly for fish; A often dives w ‘stepped’ hover, sometimes snatching prey from water surface rather than diving
Voice A ‘pi-pi-pi-…’ or ‘pyu-pyu-pyu’. Both noisy rattling ‘kt-kt-kt…’ & alarm ‘kreee-err’

ARCTIC TERN
Sterna paradisaea
Charran artico

COMMON TERN
Sterna hirundo
Charran comun

L	21-25	L
	24.28	W
W	41-47	L
	57.63	W

Both winter in Africa and breed in Europe. L flight long & elegant, hovers low over surface before diving for fish. W is marsh tern, seen on coast in passage. Lazier flight w banking fr side to side, feeding on insects in air or at water surface. L has no long tail streamers, v fast wingbeats, hovers low, often dives repeatedly
W shallow tail fork, dark crown in summer, streaked at rear in winter
Voice L sharp rasping ‘kriet’’ in dsplay & alarm repeated chattering ‘**ker**re-kiet’
W dry harsh ‘cherk’ or ‘krche’

LITTLE TERN
Sterna albifrons
Charrancito comun

WHISKERED TERN
Chlidonias hybridus
Fumarel cariblanco

L 32-36
W 54-60
Winters tropical Africa, breeds most of Europe, perching in open, calling familiar call & parasitizing nests, f often specializing on host, mimicking eggs

Medium-sized, slim w long, rounded tail & pointed wings
Flies w regular wingbeats, wings beaten below horizontal plane unlike Kestel & Sparrowhawk, rarely glides, straight-backed w forward-pointing bill. Perches, landing clumsily, often w drooped wings & slightly cocked tail

Voice familiar '**goo**-ku'; in pursuit-flight gutteral hoarse '**goch**che-che-che'

COMMON CUCKOO
Cuculus canorus
Cuco comun

L 21-21
W 47-54

Nocturnal

Winters S Europe & S of Sahara. Breeds mostly Spain & S Europe, in woodland, copses, churchyards etc, also wooded lower mountains; nests in hole.

Food mostly insects

Small, sits upright showing little of ear tufts when relaxed, more when alert; eyes yellow
Voice call constantly repeated short, deep whistling ‘tyuh’ every 2-3 secs

SCOPS OWL
Otus scops
Autillo europeo

L	17-18.5	C
	20.23	A
W	40-44	C
	51.58	A

Winter S Africa & pair for life. Fue exteme S of breeding range. A much larger w white underside, C like Pallid, Plain smaller
C and A breed in towns only, A also in rock faces

Flight ;- C hunts insects in air, flying w very fast wingbeat then long glides or sailing against wind
A has slow wing action w deep beats, white belly diff fr Common or Pallid

Voice C screams, A twitters

COMMON SWIFT
Apus apus
Vencojo comun

ALPINE SWIFT
Apus Melba
Vencojo real

L 25-29 incl tail projection 0-3
W 36-40

Winters S Africa, breeds Europe & N Africa
Wary – it breeds in open country, nest is hole in sand or river banks

Food insects caught in flight, often hunting high up w straight-winged glides & brief periods of fast wingbeats

Voice call a frequently repeated soft, rolling ‘prrűt’ w lilting tone. If agitated at nest a purer, short whistled ‘wüt’

BEE-EATER BREEDS

Merops apiaster

Abejaruco comun

L 29-32
W 52-57.5

Winters S Africa
Breeds S & E Europe in dry open country, with scattered trees etc, & food – beetles, grasshoppers, etc. Nest usually in tree-hole
Green-tinged, pale-blue bird w brown neck, large head, strong black bill
NB in flight leading wing-edge ultramarine blue. Flies straight & slow but w powerful, slightly clipped wingbeats; may swerve

Voice call & alarm hard '**rack**-ack'; when nervous raucous 'reehr-eehr-eehr…'; in display flight few hard notes & 1-4 hoarse, drawn-out 'kraah'

ROLLER
Coracias garrulus
Carraca

L 16-18

Winters in Africa
Breeds S & E Europe in open country w copses, scrub etc, nesting in existing tree-hole.
Well-disguised against tree bark & on ground – dark lines through eye & along centre crown & back help.
Unlike other woodpeckers - does not use tail as support when climbing, but perches on branch & chisels rather than digs w short, pointed bill
Hops on ground w raised tail but generally shy
Food mostly ants
Voice alarm hard ‘teck’ notes; hisses, twisting head if startled; song series of 12-18 loud, 4/sec, ‘**ti**e-**ti**e-**ti**e-**ti**e’, long gap, then repeats series

WRYNECK
Jynx torquilla
Torcecuello

L 14-16

Breeds Med & N Africa on open, dry areas. Winters Africa. Small & pale – mostly greyish-brown & off-white; underparts virtually unmarked except for dark patch on side of breast – may be a little streaking but NEVER on whole breast as in Lesser Short-toed Lark Broad, unstreaked off-white supercilium also differs
May have rufous-tinged crown. Song-flight slow drifting up high, undulating, tail folded ... singing in phase w bursts of quick, fluttering wingbeats
Voice call dry chirruping 'drit'
Song varies & like call is sim to Lesser S-T

SHORT-TOED LARK

Calandrella brachydactyla

Terrera comun

greater

lesser for comparison

L 17-21 incl tail projection 3-6.5 B
L 14-19 w tail extension 3-5 R
Winter in Africa, breed Europe & N Africa
B - nest open mud cup, placed on roof beam etc
R – closed mud w entrance tunnel in cave etc
Flights fast & powerful w clipped beats, passing back & forth & often
B - low above ground or water Food insects
B hunts by flying low over ground & around legs of stock
R hunts high in mountains
Voice both noisy, B louder – in flight sharp ‘vit!’ 2 or 3 times; B in barn chatter like budgerigars; B & R song rapid twitter & croak

BARN SWALLOW BREEDS
Hirundo rustica,
Golondrina comun

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW
Hirundo daurica
Golondrina daurica

L 12-13 S
13.5.15 H

Both winter in Africa, breed Europe

S stays near water; H in trees & near humans

Nest colonially – S in sand or bank, H mud under eaves

S is small, grey-brown above, white below w grey-brown breastband

H is black above, pure white underparts, no breastband

Flight – S rapid & light, wings beaten b/wards, rarely glides, hunts insects low over water. B fluttery, often long glides, higher

Voice both noisy, S call dry as sandpiper 'trrrsh' – repeated to make song. H call twitter 'prrit', song a chatty burst of chirps, sweet & eager

SAND MARTIN BREEDS
Riparia riparia
Avion zappador

HOUSE MARTIN
Delichon urbica
Avion comun

L 15-16

Winters in Africa, breeds Europe. Resident NW Africa Breeds in wet areas, by lakes or boggy ground, nesting in tussocks on ground. Roosts in reedbeds during migration

Tail shorter than most wagtails’; this race has blue-grey head w white supercilium & white stripe between dark grey cheek & yellow throat & chest

Voice a fine ‘psit’ or fuller ‘tslie’. Song is modest, w 2 (sometimes 1 or 3) scraping notes ‘srrii-**srriiht**’, often delivered from top of post, low bush or fence-wire perch

YELLOW WAGTAIL
Motacilla flava iberiae
Lavandera boyera ibereica

L 15-16.5

Winters S Africa. Fue S end of breeding range
Breeds in woodland, often by water, also in gardens & orchards or dry habitats
Brown above w rusty-red tail & rump, grey-buff below; eye is big & black w indistinct whitish eye-ring

Voice no real call; alarm a whistled, upslurred ‘ü**ihp**’ as well as croaking ‘errrr’. Song is powerful & melodic, varied throughout; phrases often short (2-4 secs) of trilling sounds, fluted whistles & rippling or gurgling sounds; song recurring whistles in crescendo ‘**lu lu lü lü li li**’

NIGHTINGALE
Luscinia magarhynchos
Ruisenor comun

L 13-14
Winters NE Africa - W India
Breeds N Europe in wet, boggy areas w reeds ferns etc, nesting in tussock or low in dense willow
Food insects
Small, slim w long thin legs; whitish supercilium & rusty-red patch on sides of tail-base (often seen in flight or when perched as it flicks up tail); bright blue bib w small white patch. In aut some of bright colours are replaced by yellowish-white
Voice call a dry throaty clicking ‘track’ [like flag halyard flapping in the wind]; song powerful clear ‘zri-zri-**zrütt’**, speeding up, turning into cascade of notes – can mimic, even reindeer bells!

BLUETHROAT
Luscinia svecica cyanecula
Pechiazul de medalla roja

L 13-14.5

Winters Africa, breeds Europe. Nests in woodland or sim in tree-hole; migrants often seen in coastal scrub
Slim; perches upright vibrating tail revealing rusty-red
Ad m has black throat, orange-red breast, white forehead, ahs-grey crown & back; f grey-brown above & buff-white below, faintly tinged orange

Voice call soft, whistled upslurred ‘hiut’, often foll by clicking ‘tick-tick-tick’; song fr first light a short, soft melancholy verse, high pitched eg ‘sih **trüi- trüi-trüi** si-si pli si**veuy** si’

REDSTART
Phoenicurus phoenicurus
Collirrojo real

L 14-16.5 W 13.5.15.5 B
Both winter in Africa; breed Europe & NW Africa in open ground, often by water; nest hole in rock or ground
Food insects
W-ad m in summer ash-grey crown as pic, breast colours & dark markings fade in aut; ad f less strongly marked
B-slim, long-tailed; ad m dark markings strongest in summer, ad f plainer, no black - brown markings fade in aut
Voice W- call straight whistle ‘huiit’, B call broken, hissing ‘brsche’; both do clicking ‘chack’. W sings fr high perch or short flight w fast hard explosive crackling verse; B song varies, often resembles Short-toed Lark – alarm ‘viü’

WHEATEAR
Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa
Collalba gris

BLACK-EARED WHEATEAR
Oenanthe hispanica
Collalba rubia

L 12-14

Winters in Africa
Breeds C & N Europe in uncultivated, damp areas, nests in tussock
Food insects

Short-tailed & plump; perches upright, twitches or vibrates tail, flies off low
Some white on tail seen in flight

Voice when agitated a soft-short whistle & clicking call ‘yu tek, ye tek-tek…’. Song, often at night, a varied, loud, fast short verse w mix of hoarse rasping sounds, clear deep notes & mimicry; verse begins haltingly, accelerates but is abruptly cut short

WHINCHAT
Saxicola rubetra
Tarabilla nortena

L	13.5–15	B
	12.13	S

B may reside; S winters S of Sahara, breeds S Europe. Nest low in dense bush

B - female & juv have red-brown cap, cap reaches top of eye in both; np white in tail; legs & bill grey. S- lead-grey head & mantle, brick-red on throat (f little pink-brown), legs yellow-brown

Voice B's call hard 'teck', repeated in alarm, sometimes w drawn-out, hoarse 'schreh'; song fine, starts w chattering turning into melancholy flute-like. S call dry clicking 'tett', poss 'ehd' like Trumpeter Finch; song high, rippling, bouncy mix of twitters & squeaky notes

BLACKCAP
Sylvia atricaspilla atricapilla
Curruca capirotada

SUBALPINE WARBLER
Sylvia cantillans inornata
Curruca carrasquena

L 12.5-13.5 G
12.5.14 R
Both winter in S Africa, breed Europe
G nests low in dense vegetation, in marshland by lakes; R basket-shaped nest in reeds
G creeps in grass, hard to see; R bold, mobile & visible
G legs pinkish, bill dark; R whitish supercilium, flat forehead, long, slender bill
Voice G -call sharp ‘psvitt’, song insect-like, dry rining or whirring reel ‘sir’r’r’r’r’r’r’r’r…’ mostly late dusk/night (like alarm clock w muffled clapper) R – call short ‘che’, drawn-out, hoarse ‘chreeh’ if agaitated; song at dusk & dawn ‘trett trett trett **tir**ii **tir**ii trü trü **t**ie tre tre …’

GRASSHOPPER WARBLER
Locustella naevia
Buscarla pintoja

REED WARBLER
Acrocephalus scirpaceus
Charricero comun

L	12-13	M
	13.14	O

M winters W Africa, O S of Sahara . Both pos breeders
M breeds in woodland & low scrub w trees, nest susp in branch fork 1-4m up
O breeds in dry country & along water courses, nest in low dense bush or short tree
M is plump, kindly w shortish bill, legs grey or brownish
O washed-out Reed W but flicks tail downwards when hopping, legs grey-brown
Voice M at breeding site clicking calls ‘tett’ ‘tre-te-te-tü’ ,‘te-te-te-te…’ & sparrow-like ‘tr’r’r’r’r’r’r’rt’ ; silent on passage; song bubbling. fast incl mimicry. O calls as M; song babbling w hoarse mono-tonous warble, no mimicry

MELODIOUS WARBLER
Hippolais polyglotta
Zarceto comun

OLIVACEOUS WARBLER
Hippolais pallida elaeica
Zarcero palido

L 11-12.5

Winters in tropical Africa
Breeds N Europe in shady area w domed nest in ground vegetation as Willow W's w/out feather lining
Small, neat w thin legs & pointed bill; ad has bright yellow throat & supercilium & seems short-tailed, esp fr below when perched
Rare race has virtually no yellow, other than supercilium

Voice call a sharp 'zip' & when agitated muffled fluty 'tüh'; song accelerating series of sharp, metallic, call-like notes ending in pulsating trill (as spinning coin on marble slab) 'zip… zip…zip, zip, zip, zip-zip-zip-zip, zipzipzipzvürrrürrrr'

WOOD WARBLER
Phylloscopus sibilatrix
Mosquitero silbator

L 12-13.5

Winters in S Africa, breeds N Europe in parks, gardens etc providing rich insect life, nesting in tree-hole
Active & restless
Sits horizontally, cocking tail & flicking one wing upwards
Ad m much black as pic, patch on forehead may be bigger & poss large white patch on primaries & almost full white collar; ad f has brown upperparts, no white on fore-head, v little on primaries
Voice vocal; alarm repeated ‘pik pik pik…’; call quiet clicking ‘tec’; song loud, rhythmic delivered frequently ‘zi **vree**zi **vree**zi **vree**zi tsu tsu chu-**vee** chu-**vee zi zi zi’**

PIED FLYCATCHER
Ficedula hypoleuca
Papamoscas cerrojillo

L 16-19

Winters in tropical Africa; breeds S Europe & N Africa in open wooded areas, needing sandy or bare ground but nests in branch fork

Ad m red-brown crown, ad f dark brown-grey; poss var '*badius*' lacks white on primaries as in pic

Voice alarm short hoarse 've-ve-ve-…' or faster like hoarse trill 'dsherrrrrr'; song loud, sometimes fast stream of squeaky clicking notes, sometimes slower w expert mimicry

WOODCHAT SHRIKE
Lanius senator
Alcaudon comun

L 22-25

Winters in tropical Africa; breeds Europe & N Africa in high trees, often near water, nest suspended in branch fork (Disney-style)
Food insects & berries

Shy, restless & mobile, difficult to spot in spite of colouring; f is paler & streaked below, but not easy to separate fr m
Flight is fast & sweeping through foliage

Voice often a scraming, hoarse, Jay-like ‘veeaahk’; also a falcon-like fast ‘gigigigigigi’; song beautiful, loud fluting whistle ‘**foh-**flü0-**fih**-fioo’ or shorter version

GOLDEN ORIOLE
Oriolus oriolus
Oropendola

L 14-16

S extreme of resident range. Nests in tree or bush, common in villages, gardens etc but wary & shy Stoutish body, head & bill, wh is pale pink or ivory; when perched yellow edges to primaries identify - ad m has unmarked moss-green back, but f has this brown & streaked; legs pinkish-grey
Voice call shot, forceful ‘jüpp’ usually repeated in fast series & becoming short trills ‘’jüp-üp-üp’; another call is loud, upcurled ‘u**it**’. Song is either unmusical wheezy ‘dschrüüüüuh’ repeated w long pauses, or pleasing, Canary-like song, w trills & runs of whistles & twitters

GREENFINCH
Carduelis chloris aurantiiventris
Verderon comun